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PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a)

I hereby certify that this document is being transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office via facsimile to fax no. 703 872-9306 on this 30th day of August, 2004.

In re Application of Rice et al.

Application Number 09/576,989

For HCV Variants

Group Art Unit 1848

Examiner Wortman, Donna C.

Docket Number (Optional) 66029/4356

Filed May 23, 2000

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This is a request under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) to extend the period for filing a reply in the above identified application.

The requested extension and appropriate non-small-entity fee are as follows (check time period desired):

☐ One month (37 CFR 1.17(a)(1)) \$ _____

☒ Two months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(2)) \$420.00

☐ Three months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(3)) \$ _____

☐ Four months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(4)) \$ _____

☐ Five months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(5)) \$ _____

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Therefore, the fee amount shown above is reduced by one half, and the resulting fee is: \$ _____

☐ A check in the amount of the fee is enclosed.

☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

☒ The Commissioner has already been authorized to charge fees in this application to a Deposit Account.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 20-0823. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

I am the ☐ applicant/inventor

☐ assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71. Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).

☒ attorney or agent of record.

☐ attorney or agent under 37 CFR 1.34(a). Registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34(a) _____

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

8/30/04 Date

Signature

Daniel S. Kaestn

Typed or Printed Name

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

☒ Total of 1 forms are submitted.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 111 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETELY FILLED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.